

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 1, lines 20 to 26, and continuing on page 2, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, these phenomena occur more prominently on wired networks in WAN (Wide Area Network) lines for connecting LANs (Local Area Network) as compared with LAN lines. This is because high cost of the WAN line for connecting LANs per band makes it difficult to ensure a sufficient band. For this reason, it is common practice to put high priority on control information with QoS (Quality of Service) control in a router connected to an exit of the WAN line.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 21 to 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The means for setting priority in an IP packet is characterized by performing setting such that, in a server including an application layer, a SOCKET layer, a TCP/UDP (Transmission Control Protocol/User Datagram Protocol) layer, an IP layer, and an interface layer, the SOCKET adds priority parameter passing to a standard API for use on the Internet.